

**To:** Starrs, Charles[Starrs.Charles@epa.gov]  
**From:** InsideEPA.com  
**Sent:** Tue 8/18/2015 11:00:22 AM  
**Subject:** The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- August 18, 2015

**August 18, 2015**

**Latest News**

### **Utilities Claim EPA Lacks Authority For Ash Rule's Groundwater Mandates**

Power companies are urging a federal appeals court to scale back or eliminate groundwater protection provisions in EPA's first-time Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA) coal ash disposal rule, arguing the agency lacks authority for those requirements and for mandates on closed "legacy" ash sites and other facilities.

### **On Plan's Eve, EPA Urged To Curb Methane From Existing Drilling Sources**

Environmentalists are renewing their calls for EPA to eventually launch a new rulemaking to limit methane releases from existing oil and gas sources, saying the package of pending policies that the agency is slated to release in the coming days to curb the potent greenhouse gas (GHG) is unlikely to result in sufficient reductions.

### **D.C. Circuit's CSAPR Ruling Casts Doubt Over Future Interstate Air Trading**

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit's ruling remanding Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) "budgets" to EPA for reconsideration casts major doubt over the viability of any future agency interstate emissions trading program because of strict limits the court appears to place on such programs, sources say.

### **Environmentalists Ramp Up Push For EPA To Tighten Pending Utility ELG**

Environmentalists are using meetings with top EPA

and White House officials to ramp up their push for EPA to use one of the two strictest options it proposed for its ongoing clean power plant effluent limitation rulemaking. The wastewater discharges from the oil sector, and to include various other measures to tighten the regulation.

EPA's Inspector General (IG)

Environmentalists, EPA, Industry Agree On

Schedule For CAFO Reporting Suit  
and the agency's response

to the recent Gold King Mine wastewater spill in Colorado. Environmentalists, EPA and agriculture industry officials have agreed on a court briefing schedule in litigation revived by environmental petitioners in which a federal appellate court will review the legality of a 2008 EPA rule exempting concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) from toxic reporting requirements. The study responds to a congressional request.

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